(b) which is the authority to verify, inspect and decide the accuracy of any stamped and sealed measures including dispensing pump under the said Act;

(c) whether any person/organisation other than the official of this department can override the decision of the official authorised under Weights and Measures Act on the above issues; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) The accuracy of dispensing units/pumps for dispensing petrol/diesel are tested with check measures. The check measures are tested for accuracy against the appropriate working standard measures at least once in a period of six months and duly sealed. The standard measures are kept under the custody of the personnel of the department of the State Governments empowered to carry out the checking under the provisions of the Weights and Measures Acts.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Failure of States to implement Antyodaya Anna Yojana

4155. SHRI ABANI ROY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "States fail to implement Antyodya Yojana Scheme" as reported in the 'Indian Express' dated the 27th July, 2001;

(b) if so, whether several States have urged the Central Government to bear the transportation and distribution costs for the supply of foodgrains under the scheme; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Central Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) Yes Sir. The newspaper report on 'States fail to implement Antyodaya Anna Yojana' gives the position of implementation of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland,

Tripura, Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi, Meghalaya, Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Antyodaya Anna Yojana has so far been implemented in 15 States and 3 Union Territories.

(b) and (c). Some State Governments have raised the issue regarding the burden an account of additional expenses towards transportation and dealers margins in respect of foodgrains distributed under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY). The Government of India is already reimbursing road transport cost on actual basis for lifting of foodgrains from the base depots of FCI to the designated PDCs under the Hill Transport Subsidy (HTS) scheme for BPL foodgrains to the North-Eastern States and hilly States. This will also be applicable for foodgrains lifted under AAY for Antyodaya beneficiaries.

Flexibility has been given to the State Governments/UT Administrations in the matter of fixing the margin for the fair price shops by removing the restriction that the difference between the Central Issue Price (CIP) and Retail Issue Price (RIP) should be within 50 paise per kg. for distribution of foodgrains to BPL families under TPDS. However, the States/UTs have been requested to retain the end retail price for Antodaya beneficiaries at Rs. 2 a kg. for wheat and Rs. 3 a kg. for rice.

Fake marketing agents in Delhi

†4156. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that various marketing agencies in Delhi are doing door to door marketing of consumer items and give a guarantee for a certain period on the products but they change their products after some days and refuse to change the defective item in the guarantee period on the same basis;

(b) the steps taken by Government to stop this trend and to protect the interest of the consumers; and

(c) what action Government propose to take against the Rainbow Marketing Agency, 1/3 Lalita Park, Laxminagar involved in this business ?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.